

Airman Randall scrutinized by exercise, family

By Master Sgt. Suzanne Connell
152nd Airlift Wing

VOLK FIELD, Wisc.—Master Sgt. William Randall of the Nevada Air Guard gave his son, Robert, a short but stern lecture not to “mess up” in proximity of family when he departed for his deployment here with the 152nd Airlift Wing earlier this month.

Although Robert was going to be 2,000 miles away from home, another set of scrutinizing eyes – in the form of Senior Master Sgt. Kim Randall -- were ready to keep tabs on the young airman. Kim Randall is Robert’s mother and both are now deployed here participating in the first of two operational readiness exercises set to simulate combat conditions in Iraq.

Kim Randall is the NVANG’s ground safety manager and deployed to Volk Field to ensure safety standards reach “High Roller” expectations in this benchmark training opportunity for the airlift wing as it hones its combat skills training with the assistance of the Volk Field cadre.

Robert Randall is confident his mother can carry out her duties in any atmosphere, including combat.

“I’m not too worried about my Mom should she deploy to a combat zone,” Robert said. “Mom has high standards and she strives to ensure the safety for each and every airman. She’s strict and studies hard to know her job.”

Kim Randall has been the ground safety manager since 2004 and has been a member of the NVANG since 1978. She also spent about three years with the Arizona National Guard in the 1980s.

William Randall has served as a mechanic with NVANG’s aerospace ground equipment section for 32 years. Robert Randall continues the family tradition and has been with the communication flight’s computer technology crew since 2006.

The ongoing ORE that Kim and Robert are participating in is an exercise that tests combat readiness, job skills, and survivability in simulated chemical, biological, nuclear and conventional wartime environments.

The ORE entails step-by-step training with an emphasis on survivability and accomplishment of the unit’s mission. Along the way, evaluations are made and guidance given that will likely aid in preparation for the Operation Readiness Inspection at the air base in Reno this autumn.